

**GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Wednesday, January 8, 2013 – 6 pm**  
**Craft Recreation Center, 3911 Yanceyville Street**

**PRESENT MEMBERS:** Matthew “Matt” Lojko, Jr. (Chair), Robert Enochs (Vice-Chair), Carl Brower, Christine “Chris” Cheek, Robert “Clay” Hassard, Decarlos Kinds, Tim Tsujii

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Thomas Daniels

**STAFF PRESENT:** Steve Branson, Jenny Caviness, Casey Chesson, Phil Fleischmann, Michelle Gill-Moffat, Luke Guthrie, Linda Marsh, Ednasha McCray, Mel Melton, Willette Middleton, Brooks Mullane, Marcie Richardson, Pam Robbins, Josh Sherrick, Wayne Simmons, Mike Simpson, Wade Walcutt

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chuck Burns

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was held at Craft Recreation Center. Matthew Lojko, Jr., Chair, called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Newly Appointed Commission Member**

Lojko announced that Justin Washington (present) was appointed by Councilperson Sharon Hightower during the previous City Council meeting to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Washington will be replacing Zachary Crutchfield and begin serving next month.

**Joe Davis**

Lojko announced that Joe Davis has recently suffered from congestive heart failure. Davis is synonymous with Parks and Recreation and the northeast Greensboro area and as a result has a park named in his honor.

**Quorum**

Lojko announced that a quorum was present.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the December 11, 2013 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting were approved as submitted.

**Revised 2014 Commission Meeting Schedule**

The 2014 meeting schedule previously approved had to be revised and revisited due to facility scheduling conflicts.

Kinds inquired why the meeting location for Gateway Gardens was no longer scheduled.

Lojko replied that the construction of the Gateway Gardens facility will not be ready for use.

Enochs revisited the idea of meeting at the Parks and Recreation Headquarters during the winter months.

Lojko stated that, although not unanimous, it was consensus of the board from previous discussions and decided to alternate locations every month.

#### **Action Taken**

**A motion was made by Brower and seconded by Cheek to approve the 2014 Commission meeting schedule. The motioned was approved by majority vote. (Ayes: Lojko, Brower, Cheek, Hassard, Kinds, Tsujii (Nayes: Enoch)**

#### **Attendance Reports**

Lojko requested that the July 2013-June 2014 Community Recreation Services attendance report be reviewed by staff as there are significant deviations to the numbers reported, specifically Brown and Lewis Recreation Centers, Sportsplex, Athletics.

Lojko thanked staff for placing an explanation of the previous trails discrepancy concern directly on the report.

There was a decrease in attendance at the Sportsplex during the months of October-December 2013 due to renovations. Staff will review the other discrepancies and return to the Commission with an explanation.

### **STAFF REPORT**

#### **Teen Forum Response**

Jenny Caviness, Youth and Volunteer Services Division Manager, brought before the Commission a prezi presentation (attached) that reported the results of efforts conducted this past summer to gain a better understanding of ways to engage youth in the community. This initiative was brought forth after concerns with the teen behavior and issues that took place in the downtown area. The Parks and Recreation and Human Relations Department, Human Relations Commission, and National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) partnered to conduct more than 12 community discussions that were held throughout late summer and early fall. Recommendations were then sent to City Council and the City Manager's office in response to consistent themes that emerged (attached). The ultimate goal is to assist youth and teens in becoming strong and responsible adults. This effort will help generate awareness of youth programs, create opportunities for access to programs and develop diverse opportunities for engagement. Engagement and collaboration will continue internally to define a mission and create an internal plan and timeline in order to begin efforts externally and so not to duplicate existing youth services and programs. Then, more teen input will be gathered to determine next steps.

Kinds reported that she attended one of the teen forums and was able to witness how engaged the teens were. Kinds commended staff for their efforts in capturing all the information and requests as a result of the teen forums. Kinds inquired the expense of a master plan of this kind.



Caviness replied that there is ample internal talent and resources to begin conducting a master plan; however the possibility of seeking a consultant at some point cannot be ruled out.

Kinds inquired about the possibility of collegiate representation on City Council and is there a plan on how this effort would include youth with troubled backgrounds.

Caviness stated that all options will be considered and discussed regarding youth/collegiate involvement at a commission/council level. Discussions have recently taken place with the Juvenile Detention Center to discuss inclusion and suggestions of bound over youth. Bound over youth are youth who have committed serious crimes. These discussions continue.

Hassard stated that area colleges and universities would welcome the opportunity to participate in such efforts.

### **Craft Recreation Center Facility Report**

Willette Middleton, Craft Recreation Center Director, reported on the events and programs currently taking place at Craft Recreation Center.

### **Tennis Focus Group**

Wayne Simmons, Athletics Superintendent, reported that a tennis focus group has been established which includes representatives from United States Tennis Association (USTA), North Carolina Tennis Association (NCTA), Triad Tennis Management, Greensboro Regional Tennis Association, Greensboro Sports Commission, Tim Knowles (architect), former coach of John Isner, local advocates and a couple of Parks and Recreation Commission Members. Simmons recognized Chuck Burns, advocate, who was present for the meeting. The purpose of the focus group is to develop a vision for tennis as a whole for the city. Historically, Greensboro has been a staple for tennis and with competition growing efforts are for the city to remain at the top in the state as well as the region. The focus group is researching opportunities for collaboration in programming and outreach in promotional events. This group would also like to capitalize on the success of local professional, John Isner, to promote the sport and solicit new players. This group will review facility needs and improvements and how to accomplish this financially and ensure sustainability. The idea of possible expansion of Spencer Love Tennis has resulted as an idea from this group. Greensboro is identified as a clay court hub in the state, such as at Spencer Love, and the focus group is reviewing ideas and concepts of how this may impact the future of this facility. Simmons then turned the presentation over to Chuck Burns.

Burns stated that he grew up playing tennis in Greensboro. Tennis play and tournaments were phenomenal. With a child now who plays tennis competitively he has been able to visit tennis facilities that have been built and the realization that Greensboro needs to step up their game. Greensboro currently has approximately 7,000 competitive tennis players not including recreational players, which is similar to Cary, NC. Greensboro is close to the amount of play relative to what Raleigh and Charlotte offer, with Cary being a flagship. Children can begin tennis as early as 3 years old using a foam-like ball and can learn tennis and strokes using these balls. A portion of the planning ideas is to have smaller courts available for younger children. The production taking place statewide of the number of children becoming involved in tennis has skyrocketed. The group believes that with improvement to the infrastructure and promotion of tennis will greatly benefit the city. This group is helping the city be prepared with the growth of the sport and to promote large tournaments. Currently, there are a significant number of



tournaments played in Greensboro assisting with the economic impact. The current contractor Parks and Recreation has for tennis offers the largest, most diverse program in the state for children. Burns thanked the Commission for their consideration and support for the sport of tennis.

Tsujii thanked Burns and the focus group for their efforts and support. There is a strong, rich history of tennis in Greensboro, specifically with the Spencer Love facility. There is a need to revitalize this facility and support is needed for these courts. Tsujii encouraged fellow Commission members and the public to continue supporting tennis programming efforts and facility improvements.

Phil Fleischmann, Community Recreation Services Division Manager, added that updates will be given to the Commission as to the progress being made as a result of this focus group.

Brower inquired, demographically, how children are being introduced to tennis.

Simmons replied that a USTA after school clinic will be held on January 21 with intent to help PE teachers, recreation center directors, Boys and Girls Club staff, to begin developing tennis programs within their facilities and programs. They will learn basic techniques to teach children and perhaps the opportunity to incorporate this into their afterschool programs, camps, etc. This is a portion of the outreach efforts to expose children to tennis.

Brower inquired what the plan is for publicizing and awareness for this clinic on January 21.

Simmons stated that this is internal training for staff. Once they receive the training and resources, they will begin implementing this program within their facility. Simmons will work directly with staff to help promote the sport at the various recreation centers. More clinics can be held for free as long as there are at least 12 participants.

Brower stated that he supports this effort and encouraged the focus group to perhaps offer transportation to allow all children the opportunity to participate.

Fleischmann stated that the Quick Start Tennis program is more flexible allowing tennis programming to be offered since it can be conducted in smaller spaces with portable nets and not having to be on a tennis court.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Stand up Paddleboarding**

Fleischmann came before the Commission requesting adoption of the revised Rules and Regulations pertaining to the lakes rules, specifically paddleboarding. Members were given the changes (attached) to review prior to the meeting. The request includes amended the lakes rules to permit the use of standup paddleboards at Lake Brandt and Lake Townsend. The rules were amended by the Commission approximately one year ago to allow paddleboards at Lake Higgins.



Options continue to be explored to allow paddleboard rentals at Lake Higgins for this upcoming spring, summer and fall seasons. Contact has been made with a few local businesses for partnership opportunities and perhaps cost sharing to offer stand up paddleboards for people who may not own one. This revision would also allow inflatable paddleboards, whereas the current rule states inflatable boats and rafts are not allowed.

This new opportunity would allow the public more recreational options as paddleboarding is a growing interest and sport. Life jackets will be provided at the facilities, which is in line with the current rental of kayaks and canoes. Staff would reserve the right to allow/restrict paddleboarding during certain operating times. With approval of the rules revisions, the rules will be sent to the State Commission on Public Health who has final authority on these permissions as these are drinking water reservoirs. Parks and Recreation staff worked with Water Resources and the state during 2013 to capture the water quality at Lake Higgins and then sent to the state for review. There was no hesitation as to being able to offer paddleboarding at the other lakes.

Fleischmann requested the Commission to consider adopting the amended rules to allow standup paddleboards at Lake Brandt and Lake Townsend as presented.

#### **Action Taken**

**A motion was made by Brower and seconded by Hassard to adopt the amended Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations as presented. A vote in favor was unanimous.**

#### **SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

NONE

#### **INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Walcutt distributed an invitation (attached) to the Commission inviting them to attend a public meeting on the Renaissance Shopping Center, January 23 at Peeler Recreation Center. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the future of the shopping center.

Denise Turner Roth has accepted an appointment with the General Services Administration under President Obama's administration. City Council appointed the Deputy City Manager, Jim Westmoreland, to serve as Interim City Manager. Chris Wilson continues his assignment as Interim Assistant City Manager. Accomplishments heard during previous Commission meetings and collaboration efforts carry on as the department continues to move forward.

Walcutt read a letter from Deb Bates Bettini, citizen, who expressed appreciation to employees at Lake Townsend for their efforts assisting her with donating a bench in memory of her father who worked on the Lake Townsend project in the late 1970's.

The last few nights have produced extreme cold weather which gave Parks and Recreation an opportunity to collaborate with Red Cross, Street Watch, Fire Department, Police Department, Social Services, Interactive Resource Center (IRC) and local churches to provide a warming station at Windsor Community Recreation Center for those in need. A dozen people utilized the space the first night and 23-24 people the second night.

### **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Kinds inquired if any collaborative efforts have begun with this Commission and the War Memorial Commission.

Walcutt replied that staff will research these efforts.

Kinds recommended that if complimentary tickets become available to the US Gymnastics event to take place at the Coliseum to consider giving these to recreation center visitors.

Kinds inquired if there is an emergency plan for such instances as the extreme cold weather.

Wade stated that there is a protocol established; however, traditionally, efforts are funneled through the Red Cross and Fire Department and in the frame of a natural disaster. The organizations that were involved in assisting with the warming stations will be gathering to determine triggers that initiate such efforts.

Brower welcomed Justin Washington who will begin serving on the Commission next month.

Cheek reported that an additional partner for the warming stations were the Heat Buses that were transporting participants. The communication efforts were a large part in making this effort successful.

Hassard commended staff for their assistance with Running with the Balls 5k event held in Sunset Hills prior to Christmas. Approximately 2,500 people participated raising a substantial amount of funds for First Harvest Food Bank. Hassard thanked Middleton for her efforts at Craft Recreation Center and for helping make a difference.

Enochs stated he was very impressed with Craft Recreation Center programs and thanked Middleton for her efforts with the youth at the center.

Lojko announced that the next Commission meeting will be held February 12 at 4 pm at Garden Council next to the Greensboro Science Center.

With no further business, Lojko adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marcie Richardson, Executive Assistant  
Greensboro Parks and Recreation





December 13, 2013

**TO:** Chris Wilson, Interim Assistant City Manager

**FROM:** Jenny Caviness, Youth and Volunteer Services Division Manager  
Tammy Miller, Youth Services Coordinator

**SUBJECT: Teen Forums Response**

In an effort to gain a better understanding of ways to engage youth in our community, the City of Greensboro organized more than one dozen community discussions throughout the late summer and early fall. The discussions were facilitated by City Council members, local organization leaders, the City of Greensboro's Human Relations Department, and the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ). The feedback from these forums is attached. (See Appendix A)

Three consistent themes emerged from the community discussions as residents offered insight into ways to improve youth interactions, including:

1. **Generating greater awareness of youth programs;**
2. **Creating opportunities for access to the programs;**
3. **Developing diverse opportunities for engagement.**

The following recommendations are based on addressing those themes as we plan and execute City programs for the summer of 2014 and beyond. We will focus on these outlined priorities while maintain ongoing dialogue with internal and external stakeholders as we work to best meet the needs of our residents. We will also continue to focus on our mission, which is to offer programs and services to provide for the physical, social, and intellectual development of youth, while also supporting community, academic, and family institutions to enrich the whole child. The City of Greensboro strives to provide appealing, high quality services to youth; adhering to industry standards and best practices, and engaging in collaboration, research, and innovation. All identified services are within current budgetary resources or attainable through grant and sponsorship funding.

**1. Develop and publicize a series of current and potential events and programs designed to engage teens.**

New Offerings:

- Arts and Crafts and Maker Spaces:  
"As seen on Pinterest"
- Bike Repair and Career Info
- Citizen Science Series: Technology, Careers and Inquiry (Outdoor)

- Survival, Marine Biology, Green Building, etc.)
- Exercise with Zumba Instructor
- Extended Recreation Center hours
- SAT Prep/College-Career Prep
- Girls Spa Day and Career Information
- Silent Library Game
- Informal Talent Shows
- Back to School Bash/Open Mic Party

Existing offerings:

- Arts and Cultural Events
- Counselors in Training Program
- Dance or Concert Event
- Free Play Basketball
- Magician Workshop
- Manga/Anime Club & Comic Con
- Money/Budget Games & Simulation
- Movies /Book Discussions
- Pen to Film
- Pool Parties
- Summer Night Lights (SNL) (multiple evening events)
- Teen Talk
- Video Game Tournaments
- Workforce Development Workforce Investment Act program

**2. Design multiple avenues to increase awareness for teen offerings.**

- **Increase City communication:** Develop a comprehensive City of Greensboro Youth Services marketing strategy that leverages existing communications avenues, including media relations, web, social media and Greensboro Television Network. Expand communications efforts to include mobile technology that better connects with teens using mobile devices.
- **Promote local grassroots campaign:** Continue to encourage word-of-mouth methods, including street and neighborhood teams and staff-customer conversations. Create partnerships with other youth service providers and houses of worship to message youth offerings.
- **Create a school system communications plan:** Work with City Communications to publicize City youth services through Guilford County schools, charter schools and home schools.

**3. Promote access to existing teen spaces and research new opportunities and current trends.**

- **Research teen spaces:** Review models of teen spaces and locations in other communities, and promote current teen-friendly locations. Investigate usage of available spaces.
- **Investigate transportation opportunities:** Consult with the Greensboro Department of Transportation for ideas about promotions and options regarding teen transportation.
- **Promote current locations:** Continue to offer and promote teen events at City facilities located throughout Greensboro.

**4. Utilize City and community resources to engage teens.**

- **Offer empowerment and decision-making opportunities:** Continue to offer and promote current City resources, including Greensboro Youth Council, Workforce



Development Workforce Investment Act program, service learning, volunteerism, internships, counselors-in-training, and teen-led program planning. Partner with other youth service providers to engage more youth.

- **Create group events:** Continue to offer large broad-scope events, but also smaller special-interest events held at various locations and times, and including multiple topics using teen input for ideas.
- **Promote resources for individuals:** Promote the variety of City spaces and resources available to teens on a self-guided, individual basis, including open-gym athletic facilities, libraries, parks, cultural centers, pools, computer access, free music downloads, online homework help, books, maker-spaces, free DVD rentals, and more.
- **Encourage welcoming and inclusiveness effort:** Encourage a policy of proactive-friendliness to teens at City facilities. Utilize National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) to offer Flash Judgments trainings and City experts and teen volunteers to create additional training and guidelines.
- **Partner for professional services needs:** Some medical, psychological, legal or other needs may fall outside the City's mission and require professional specialists. Continue City participation in "Safe Place", and continue to promote web link (<http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/index.aspx?page=3698>) to "Youth Services Resource Guide," working with community groups to update information.
- **Collaborate for education and information for parents of teens:** Use libraries and recreation center facilities to offer community-led parent workshops, such as Guilford County Schools Parent Academy, Family Life Council, etc.

**Next steps:** We will continue to refine our summer program offerings with the goal of providing a full listing by May of 2014. Moving past the summer, we will utilize this information in this report, plus a youth master plan national model, to create an internal master plan that holistically addresses the needs of all youth, age birth-18.

The plan will define the City's role in youth development and ensure that we engage all internal and external stakeholders to best serve Greensboro youth. As part of this process, we will assemble a youth services team, comprised of multiple departments, to help develop this internal master plan and develop a broad view of all current offerings. We will continue to partner with the Human Relations Department to ensure cultural sensitivity and inclusion.

JC & TM

cc: Brigitte Blanton, Public Libraries Director  
Wade Walcutt, Interim Parks and Recreation Director  
Donnie Turlington, Communications Manager  
Mary Vigue, Assistant to the City Manager

## Appendix A

### **Community Conversations: Youth Development Initiative** **Dr. Love Crossling, Director of Human Relations**

The Human Relations Department with the City of Greensboro has been charged with being a participant or facilitator of community conversations focused on youth development. This charge is the result of an incident involving approximately 300 teens downtown on June 29, 2013. Since that time, the Director, Senior Manager, and Supervisor of Human Relations have been present at over a dozen community discussions, some of which were facilitated by grassroots organizers, council members, community organization leaders, and the City of Greensboro. There were two clusters of meetings. The first cluster was organized primarily by the Youth Pastors' Coalition, which was headed by Joseph Frierson from July 5-August 10, 2013. The second cluster was organized by the Human Relations department and facilitated by National Coalition for Community Justice (NCCJ). The following is a list of themes that were either distinct to either cluster, or shared across both.

#### Shared Themes:

- Teens are in the margin in Greensboro (small children matter, but teens don't)
- There needs to be a place for teens to "just hang out" without it being rigidly structured. Adult supervision should be present but not apparent (unless they are younger adults).
- Teens need mentors
  - For life transitions
  - Dealing with life challenges
  - Age doesn't matter as much as the ability to relate
- Teens don't know what resources are available if any.
- Face book is no longer the relevant way to communicate to teens.
- Teens like event-based program, but also want consistent activities (see initial report suggestion model of event-message-workshop/workshop-message-event).
- Fun for teens (different from fun for children) requires more money. Teens don't have money.
- Transportation is an issue for some teens.
- Teens are interested in programs that address:
  - College preparation
  - Business and Entrepreneurship
  - Artistic Expression
  - Athletics
  - Technology
  - Gaming (Electronic Gaming)
  - Volunteering and Civic Engagement
  - Social Awareness



#### Cluster One Themes: Youth Pastor Coalition Meetings

- All teens aren't welcomed
  - Don't belong because of race
  - Don't belong because of socioeconomic status
- Nothing happens in the community where I live. You have to go to another part of the city.
- Parents:
  - Those activities aren't (socially/culturally relevant) for my child.
  - I don't know about the activities for my teen.
  - I don't have the money and can't do for one child and not the others.
  - There needs to be parent education
    - About monitoring your teens whereabouts
    - About finding mentors if your teen is unsupervised due to work schedule
    - About the opportunities available to teens if they aren't enrolled in afterschool programs

#### Cluster Two Themes: NCCJ

- There is no place for diverse groups of teens to mix.
- Teens need to be *welcomed* downtown, not just tolerated.
- Teens are disengaged because they don't have organizations like NCCJ to pull them in and give them a sense of belonging.
- Teens need to feel supported and their voiced need to be heard regularly.
- School is the best means of marketing because teens are there all day.
- Social media is a limited avenue for marketing. Street teams are better:
  - Defined as a group of teens at *each school* who
    - pass out flyers for programs, events, and services
    - are responsible for posting programs, events, and services on twitter
    - possibly get permission to address different groups of students for more personalized invitations to events
  - Rationale: Teens participate in things that *other teens* say are relevant, not adults
- Lack of privilege equals lack of participation
  - Limited access
  - Limited knowledge
  - Limited finances
  - Limited parental support

**1 Canopy**  
The canopy is the upper part of the tree, made up of leaves and branches. It is responsible for photosynthesis and transpiration.

**2 Branches**  
Branches support the leaves and transport water and nutrients from the roots to the leaves.

**3 Stem**  
The stem is the main part of the tree that supports the canopy and transports water and nutrients from the roots to the leaves.

**4 Root system**  
The root system is the part of the tree that is underground. It is responsible for absorbing water and nutrients from the soil.

**5 Root hairs**  
Root hairs are small, hair-like structures that increase the surface area of the root system for water and nutrient absorption.

**6 Root cap**  
The root cap is a protective structure at the tip of the root that prevents damage as the root grows through the soil.

**7 Root nodule**  
Root nodules are small, rounded structures that store food and water for the tree.

**8 Root tip**  
The root tip is the growing end of the root, where new root cells are formed.

**9 Root collar**  
The root collar is the part of the root that is just below the stem. It is responsible for protecting the growing tip of the root.

**10 Root system**  
The root system is the part of the tree that is underground. It is responsible for absorbing water and nutrients from the soil.





## Foundation

- Over a dozen meetings with the community
- Discussions were facilitated by:
  - City Council members,
  - local organization leaders,
  - the City of Greensboro's Human Relations Department,
  - the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)



## Drive

Consistent themes:

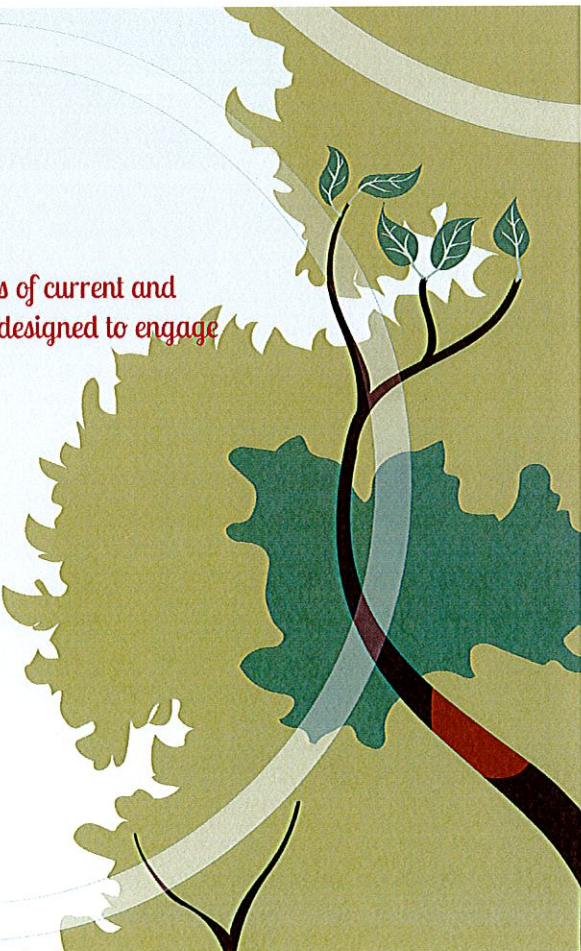
1. Generating greater awareness of youth programs;
2. Creating opportunities for access to the programs;
3. Developing diverse opportunities for engagement.





## How

- Defining Missions
- Internal engagement & collaboration
- External engagement & partnerships
- Additional Teen & resident input



1. Develop and publicize a series of current and potential events and programs designed to engage teens.

- Highlight offerings
  - New (10)
  - Current (14)





## 2. Design multiple avenues to increase awareness for teen offerings.

- Increase City Communication
- Promote local grassroots campaign
- Create a School System communication plan



## 3. Promote access to existing teen spaces and research new opportunities and current trends.

- Research Teen Spaces
- Investigate transportation opportunities
- Promote current locations





#### 4. Utilize City and Community resources to engage teens.

- Offer empowerment and decision-making opportunities
- Create group events
- Promote resources for individuals
- Encourage welcoming and inclusiveness effort
- Partner for professional services needs
- Collaborate for education and information for parents of teens



#### 5. Next Steps

- Full listing of Summer programs by May 2014
- Create an internal Master plan



**Foundations**

1. A clear mission statement
2. A clear vision statement
3. A clear set of core values
4. A clear set of business goals
5. A clear set of business objectives

**Vision**

1. A clear vision statement
2. A clear set of business goals
3. A clear set of business objectives
4. A clear set of business strategies
5. A clear set of business tactics

**1. Market analysis**

1. A clear understanding of the market
2. A clear understanding of the competition
3. A clear understanding of the customer
4. A clear understanding of the industry
5. A clear understanding of the economy

**2. Financial projections**

1. A clear understanding of the financials
2. A clear understanding of the budget
3. A clear understanding of the revenue
4. A clear understanding of the expenses
5. A clear understanding of the profit

**3. Marketing strategy**

1. A clear understanding of the marketing
2. A clear understanding of the promotion
3. A clear understanding of the place
4. A clear understanding of the people
5. A clear understanding of the process

**3. First Steps**

1. A clear understanding of the first steps
2. A clear understanding of the first steps
3. A clear understanding of the first steps
4. A clear understanding of the first steps
5. A clear understanding of the first steps

**Drive**

1. A clear understanding of the drive
2. A clear understanding of the drive
3. A clear understanding of the drive
4. A clear understanding of the drive
5. A clear understanding of the drive



**RULES AND REGULATIONS  
GOVERNING THE USE OF LAKE BRANDT, LAKE HIGGINS AND LAKE TOWNSEND**

**ORIGINALLY ADOPTED NOVEMBER 20, 1967**

**AS AMENDED AND APPROVED ON: MAY 8, 2013**

**Reference: City Ordinance 19-1 (CO 19-1)**

*The following excerpts are taken from the "Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation" areas which specifically apply to recreational use of the watershed parks of Lake Brandt, Lake Higgins, and Lake Townsend. The Rules and Regulations below are intended to update and replace "Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of Lake Brandt, Lake Higgins, and Lake Townsend," originally approved by the NC State Board of Health on January 19, 1970, with revisions approved on May 15, 2013. Failure to adhere to any rule or regulation may result in expulsion from the facility for the day and/or for an extended period of time. Failure to abide will result in violators being subject to arrest for trespassing. **Numbered and lettered notations reference the location of the complete rule in the "Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation areas" document.***

**1. VEHICLES IN PARKS**

Motorized vehicles are not allowed on any trails or walking paths. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive any vehicle anywhere in any park, except upon the regularly established roadways; it shall be unlawful for any person to park or permit to be parked any vehicle anywhere except upon designated parking areas authorized by the Park Manager or designated official.

**2. BICYCLES AND HIKING IN PARKS**

Bicycles shall be allowed only on designated paths and trails, and on public roadways. Hiking shall be permitted only on designated paths and trails, as noted on trail signage.

**5. PRESERVATION OF PARK PROPERTY**

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, destroy, mutilate or deface any City/County structure, monument, planter, fountain, wall, fence, railing, vehicle, bench, trees, plants, or any other property in any park. Any persons committing any unlawful action above will be subject to fines and/or arrest.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to make an Excavation or use a metal detector in any park for any purpose without written permission of the Park Manager or designated official. Approved excavations will follow Archaeological Site Protocol for the City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department (ref. Appendix pg. BB-MM).



D. It shall be unlawful for any person to dig, cut bruise, mutilate or cause to be transplanted, cut, bruised, debarked or mutilated any plant material of all and any description within any park land without written permission of the Parks Manager or designated official.

All new plant material to be added to park property must adhere to the Invasive Plant Policy PR-P30 (ref. Appendix pg. M-N) and be approved by the Park Manager or designated official.

## 6. WEAPONS, FIREARMS AND INCENDIARY DEVICES

It shall be unlawful for any person, at any time or under any circumstances within any park to carry, display, discharge, forcibly hurl, or cause to be discharged or forcibly hurled any edged weapons, including but not limited to archery equipment, sling shots or other similar devices.

It shall also be unlawful for any person, at any time or under any circumstances within any park to carry, display, discharge, shoot, fire or explode, or cause to be discharged, shot, fired, or exploded any firearms, including, but not limited to air rifles, toy pistols, toy guns or other toy arms designed to forcibly hurl a projectile or missile.

Open fires and consumer fireworks of any type are expressly prohibited except at City of Greensboro approved and permitted events. Must comply with City of Greensboro Fire Marshall, National Fire Protection Association Codes and Standards, and Chapter 33 of the International Fire Code.

## 7. ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE

It shall be unlawful for any person to allow or permit any horses, dogs or other animals to run at large in a park. Pet owners are required to clean-up pet excrement prior to leaving the area. No animals are allowed to enter the lakes or ponds on or off the leash. Domestic animals may not enter the water at the City lakes of Brandt, Higgins, and Townsend; nor are they allowed within 50 feet of the shore at Brandt, Higgins, and Townsend, except on designated hiking trails. Domestic animals must remain under the direct supervision and control of its owner at all times.

The Guilford County Leash Law (ref. Appendix pg. O) is enforced in all parks, trails, and greenways.

## 8. MOLESTING ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for any person to trap, catch, wound or kill, or cause to be injured, treat cruelly, or tease, or attempt to trap, catch, wound, kill, injure, or tease any bird or animal, or insect or molest or rob any nest of any bird or any lair, den or burrow of any animal in or upon any land owned by the City and administered by the Park Manager or designated official. The feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited.

It shall also be unlawful to release or place any animal onto land owned by the City and administered by the Parks Manager or designated official.

Exception with Manager's approval:

- Animal control devices used by professionals or park staff.

## 9. DISTURBANCE OF FISH AND AQUATIC LIFE IN PROHIBITED AREAS

It shall be unlawful to fish in any waters other than areas designated by the park manager for fishing. NC Wildlife Resources Commission Fishing Rules & Regulations, in addition to park fishing rules apply. It shall be unlawful for any person to attempt to or actually harass, remove, capture or harm by any means, any amphibian, reptile, bird, waterfowl, mammal or aquatic life from any pond, lake, stream, stream buffer, wetland, bog on any lands under the management of recreational fishing that are under the enforcement of Wildlife Resources Commission or park management.

#### 17. BEER, WINE, ALE, AND OTHER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess consume or to display publicly any beer, wine, ale or any alcoholic beverages in any park; and it shall be unlawful for any person under the influence of intoxicating beverages to enter or remain in any park.

#### 19. FIRES and GRILLS

It shall be unlawful for any person to make or kindle a fire in any park, trail, or greenway, except in a stationary charcoal grill as provided at the park, or a gas grill approved by the Park Manager or in an area specifically designated by the Park Manager. Picnics may only occur in designated areas set up for such activities at the City lakes of Brandt, Higgins, and Townsend.

#### 20. DUMPING

No person shall deposit, dump, throw, cast, lay or place, or cause to be deposited, dumped, thrown, cast, laid or placed any ashes, trash, rubbish, soil or earth, paper, garbage, oil, refuse, debris, plant clippings or limbs or leaves in or upon any park or park lands or in any watercourse, lake, pond or slough within said park lands. The use of confetti is strictly prohibited.

#### 21. USE OF PARKS AT NIGHT

Individuals using park facilities during the hours the parks are closed will be subject to arrest for trespassing.

#### 27. USE OF LAKES AND PONDS

The following rules and regulations shall govern the use of bodies of water in the lakes Brandt, Higgins and Townsend:

- GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL LAKES AND PONDS
  1. Fishing at all City Lakes (Brandt, Higgins and Townsend) shall be from boat or pier only. No bank fishing is allowed at any of the City Lakes. No person shall be allowed to leave their boat except at the marina dock area.
  2. Fishing is allowed by permit only.
    - a. Permits for fishing can be obtained from the facility office or staff person.
    - b. Daily and annual fishing passes are available.
    - c. Private boats, canoes, kayaks, paddleboards or other personal floatation crafts are not allowed in-any lake or pond except lakes



Brandt, Higgins and Townsend. Uses of departmental watercrafts are not governed by this rule.

- d. No person age 13 or older shall fish in any lake or pond except by permit issued by the facility staff.
  - e. Permits are nontransferable. Every permit shall be issued subject to revocation or cancellation if the holder violates any of the rules and regulations.
3. Fishing is governed by the State of North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Regulations for Inland Fishing and all creel limits are set by the same rules and regulations. Facilities may enforce more stringent creel limits but the limits must be posted.
  4. All anglers 16 years and older must possess a valid North Carolina Fishing License.
  5. No swimming is allowed in the lakes or ponds managed by the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department.

• GENERAL RULES FOR WATERCRAFT USED ON CITY WATERWAYS

6. All boats shall meet Coast Guard and State regulations and shall pass a safety inspection by the facility staff and the staff must be satisfied that the person in charge of the boat is qualified. The number of boats allowed on each lake at any given time are as follows:
  - a. Lake Brandt: 45 boats maximum
  - b. Lake Higgins: 40 boats maximum
  - c. Lake Townsend: 65 boats maximum
7. Personal flotation devices (PFD) approved by the United States Coast Guard will be provided for each person using a pedal boat, rowboat, canoe, ~~or~~ kayak, or paddle board provided at the facility. A PFD must be worn by all persons of any age using a City owned rented kayak, ~~or~~ canoe, or paddle board.
8. Hours of operation for all lakes will vary with the season and the activity permitted. The hours shall posted in a conspicuous place. There shall be no activity on the lake except as published. All persons must be off the property by the designated closing time.
9. Department owned watercraft shall be governed by the following occupancy regulations:

A. Rowboats:	3 adults or 2 adults and up to 2 children under 48 inches tall not to exceed maximum weight capacity.
B. Canoe:	2 adults or 1 adult and 1 child (PFDs must be worn at all times)
C. Kayaks:	1 adult or 1 child that has successfully completed a kayak class (PFDs must be worn at all times)
D. Pedal Boats:	2 passenger boats-2 adults or 2 children or 2 adults and 1 child under 3 years of age or maximum weight capacity. 4 passenger boat-4 adults or any combination of adults and children up to 4 passengers or maximum weight capacity
E. Sailboats	Aqua Fin-2 persons Lazer Pico-2 persons Capri-3 persons

- All children under 13 years of age must wear a personal floatation device or PFD at all times while on the water. Children must be accompanied by an adult (16 years of age or older).
- Children between the ages of 12-15 may operate a pedal boat without an adult but **MUST** wear a PFD at all times.
- Children ages 13-15 may be allowed to kayak, paddleboard or operate a sailboat alone provided they are under the direct supervision of a parent, legal guardian or approved sailing instructor.
- Children ages 9-12 may be allowed to operate a kayak adjacent to a parent, legal guardian or instructor in another kayak, provided he or she has successfully completed the department's kayak safety clinic.
- The facility is not responsible for any items dropped or lost during use of the watercraft.
- No pets are allowed on any type of watercraft rented from the department.
- Any patron found guilty of littering any lake, pond or surrounding property will be fined and/or suspended from the facility for a period of 30 days. Failure to adhere to the suspension period will subject the violator to arrest for trespassing.
- Reckless activity on the waters of any Parks and Recreation facility shall not be tolerated and any offender shall be apprehended, removed from the water and be subject to the full penalty of the law.
- No seines, traps or other special devices shall be allowed in the lakes or ponds to take either game or non-game fish.
- At the request of staff each person shall submit their catch for inspection.
- Inflatable boats or rafts are not allowed, with the exception of inflatable paddle boards, which may be allowed at the discretion of the Lake Activity Specialist.

## 28. SPECIFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CITY LAKES

The following rules and regulations are specific to the use of City Lake property at Brandt, Higgins and Townsend for purposes other than water supply.

1. Depending on the location, daily and annual permits are available for pier fishing, fishing from boats, -and for use of personally owned boats including sailboats, canoes, kayaks and paddleboards.
2. Annual permits can be purchased in the registered boat number and are good for that boat only.
  - a. Senior citizens and veterans may buy an annual permit in the registered boat number at the senior citizen rate.
3. Annual permits for fishing piers are valid only for registered individual.
4. No fishing will be allowed within the boundaries on the City-owned property on the Reedy Fork Creek, Horsepen Creek or Brush Creek drainage area except from boats on Lake Higgins, Lake Brandt or Lake Townsend. Pier fishing is allowed at Lake Higgins, Lake Brandt and Lake Townsend. No person shall be allowed to leave their boat except at the marina dock area.
5. Hours of operation for all City Lakes will vary with the season and the activity permitted. The hours shall be posted in a conspicuous place. There shall be no activity on the lake except as published. All persons must be off the marina property by the designated closing time.



6. The Parks and Recreation Department shall have the authority to close any or all lakes or restrict hours of operation for special activities. In addition, use of the lakes may be temporarily suspended should the Water Resources Department indicate that water testing and monitoring necessitate temporarily suspending activities.
7. No person shall be allowed to swim or enter the water by person on Lake Townsend, Lake Brandt or Lake Higgins.
8. The use of watercraft at the city lakes, including rowboats, powerboats, kayaks, canoes, paddleboards and other personal watercraft, is at the discretion of the Lake Activity Specialist. Staff will not allow unsafe watercraft or watercraft with a great potential for bodily contact with the water to be used. Additionally, staff will only allow the types of watercraft which are permitted within the given lake's rules and regulations to be used at the facility.
9. All watercraft must check in with the marina operator prior to using the lake. All watercraft must enter and exit from designated areas of the marina only which includes the docks adjacent to the marinas as well as the banks adjacent to the parking areas at each lake. Watercraft may not enter and exit the lakes from any other access points (exception: emergency water craft).
10. Rental boats and equipment must be returned to the point from which they originated.
11. Private boats must be equipped with installed operating lights in order to be used after dark during late night hours.
12. All water craft must be off of the water fifteen (15) or more minutes prior to the posted closing time of the lake. No permits will be issued within one hour and fifteen minutes prior to closing time.
13. All trash and refuse must be deposited into receptacles provided at the marina operations for collection by staff. No trash or refuse may be thrown into the lake or left on property adjacent to the lake.
14. Human excrement and bodily waste may not be discharged into the lake or onto the surrounding property. Restrooms are provided at each lake's marina for this purpose.
15. No more than twenty (20) stand-up paddle boards will be allowed on a lake at any given time. Paddle boards must launch from either the dock or the bank within the marina operation and the operator must remain on the paddle board until it returns to the marina at which time the operator must get off of the paddle board in such a way as to not come into contact with the water. Approved PFDs must be worn at all times while operating a paddle board. Facility staff reserve the right to suspend paddle boarding should any detrimental effects to water quality be detected. In the interest of safety, the use of paddle boards may be limited to certain areas by the Lake Activity Specialist. Note, the use of paddle boards is allowed at Lake Higgins only.
16. Water crafts must launch with no bodily contact.

#### A. LAKE BRANDT

1. No pleasure motor boating or testing motorboats shall be permitted on Lake Brandt.
2. Outboard motors on fishing boats only will be permitted on Lake Brandt only when the water elevation is 741.00 feet above sea level or higher.
3. City owned and privately owned boats are allowed on Lake Brandt.

4. Lake Brandt is closed on Tuesday (March through October) and on Tuesday and Wednesday (November through February).
5. There shall be no fishing allowed within 100 yards of the water intake for the Lake Brandt Pumping Station. No boats will be allowed within the area except when operated by authorized Parks and Recreation, NC Wildlife Resources Officer or Public works employees on their assigned duties.
6. No boats are allowed within 150 feet of the fishing pier.

#### B. LAKE HIGGINS

1. No pleasure motor boating or testing motor boats shall be permitted on Lake Higgins.
2. City owned and privately owned boats are allowed on Lake Higgins.
3. Lake Higgins is closed Monday (March through October) and on Monday and Tuesday (November through February).
4. No boats are allowed within 150 feet of the fishing pier.
5. ~~The use of paddle boards is permitted at Lake Higgins only. Reference section 28-15.~~

#### C. LAKE TOWNSEND

1. Pleasure motor boating shall be confined to Lake Townsend.
2. City-owned boats and privately-owned boats shall be permitted on Lake Townsend.
3. Lake Townsend is closed on Wednesday (March through October) and on Wednesday and Thursday (November through February).
4. Outboard motors on fishing boats only will be permitted on Lake Townsend only when the water elevation is 710.00 feet above sea level or higher.
5. There shall be no fishing allowed within 100 yards of the water intake for the Townsend low lift pumping station. No boats will be allowed within the area except when operated by authorized Parks and Recreation, NC Wildlife Resources Officer or Public Works employee on their assigned duties.
6. No boat or sailboat is allowed between buoy and pier.

### 29. STAFF POWERS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- These rules and regulations may be enforced by any and all remedies authorized by applicable law.
- The Lake Activity Specialist shall be the official custodian and officer in charge of the facility and all its property. It shall be the duty of the parks and recreation staff and local law enforcement officers to enforce all ordinances, rules and regulations adopted by the City Council and all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- Violation, by any person(s), of any rules and regulations specified herein may be grounds for the denial of the use of the facility by the person(s) committing the violation.
- The Lake Activity Specialist may suspend all privileges to use City of Greensboro operated Parks and Recreation facilities for a period of up to one (1) year. Patrons that violate the suspension period will be subject to arrest for trespassing.
- The facility staff shall deny permission to use facilities to any person having beer, wine, ale or any alcoholic beverages in their possession or who show evidence of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.



- The facility staff shall keep posted at all times copies of these rules and regulations in a conspicuous place-and shall provide copies upon request.